WHERE MONSTERS DWELL #1
The Phantom Eagle
Flies the Savage Skies!
SECRET WARS
MARVEL
GARTH ENNIS
RUSS BRAUN
DONO ALMARA

SECRET WARS

THE MULTIVERSE WAS DESTROYED!

•

THE HEROES OF EARTH-616 AND EARTH-1610
WERE POWERLESS TO SAVE IT!

•

NOW, ALL THAT REMAINS...IS **BATTLEWORLD**!

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A MASSIVE, PATCHWORK PLANET COMPOSED OF THE FRAGMENTS OF WORLDS THAT NO LONGER EXIST, MAINTAINED BY THE IRON WILL OF ITS GOD AND MASTER, VICTOR VON DOOM!

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EACH REGION IS A DOMAIN UNTO ITSELF!

WHERE MONSTERS DWELL

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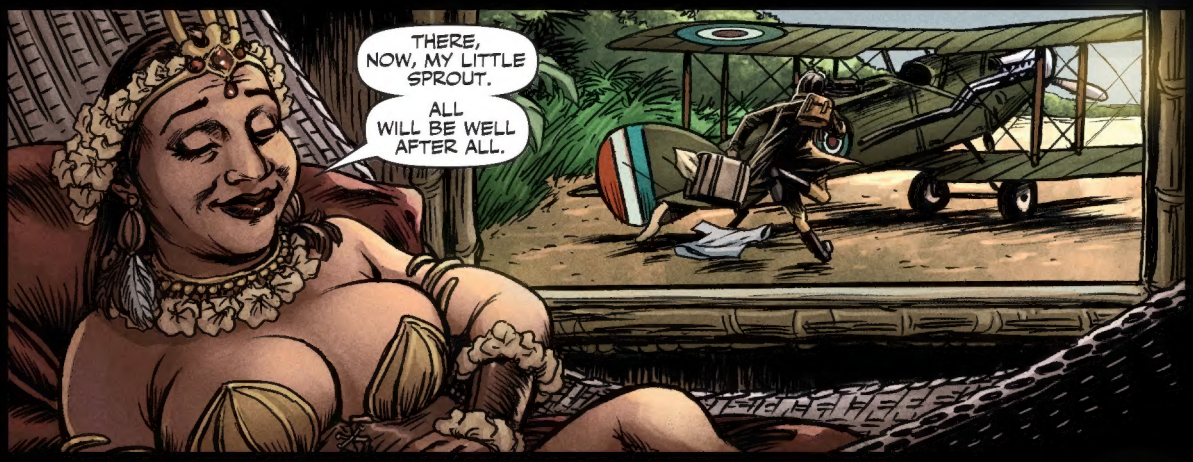
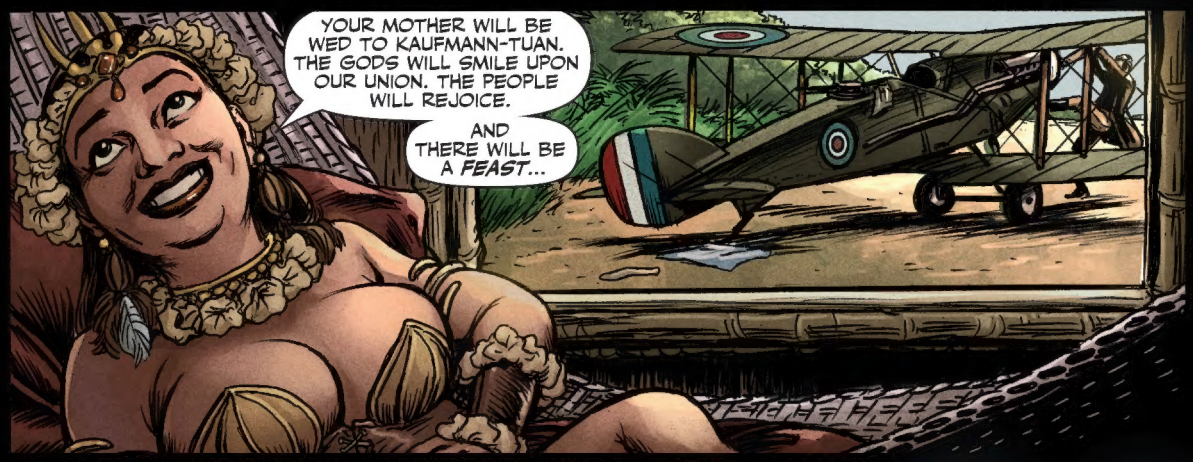
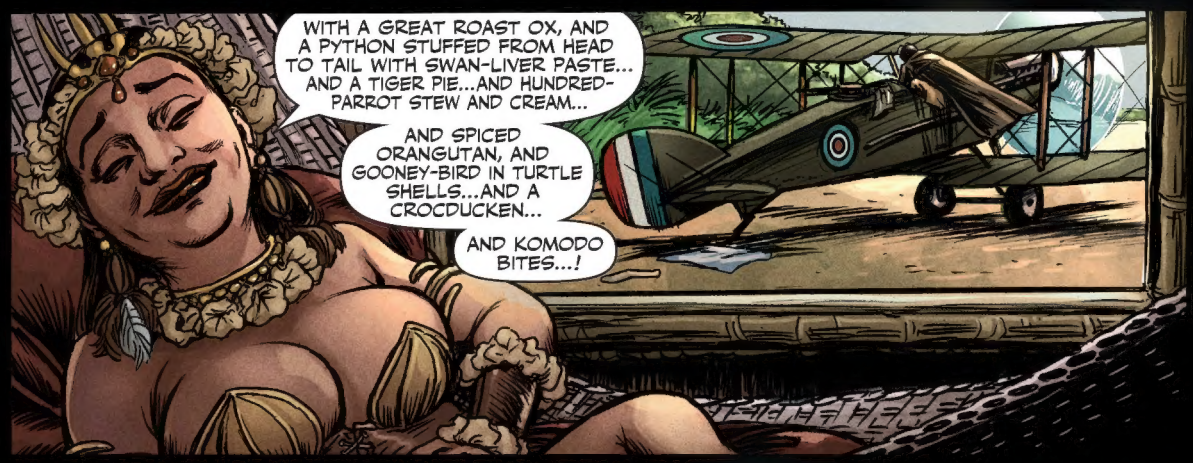
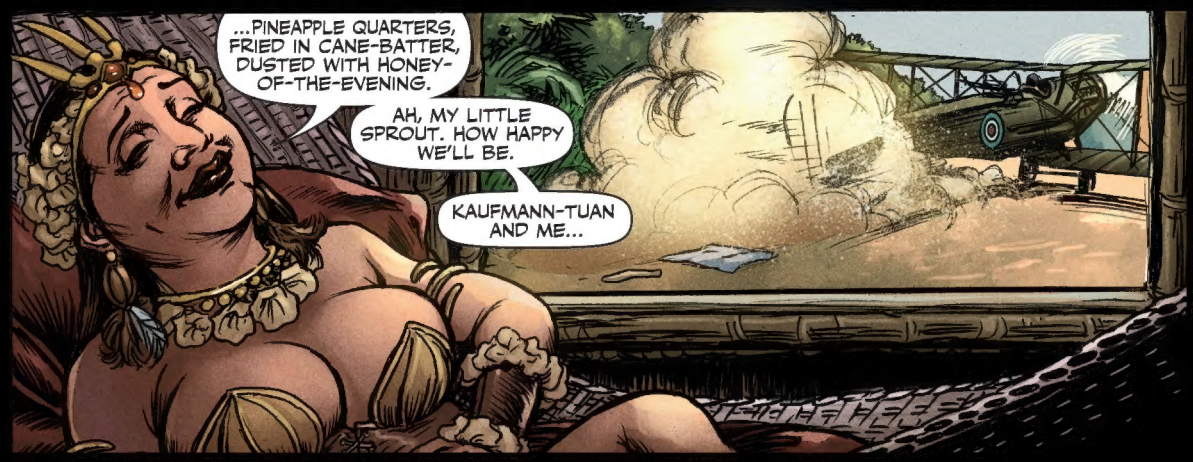
KAUFMANN-TUAN... THE SICKNESS OF THE MORNING IS UPON ME, AND SOON MY BELLY WILL BEGIN TO GROW...
MY FATHER IS KING OF OUR TRIBE. HE CANNOT ABIDE THE SHAME OF A GRANDCHILD BORN OUT OF WEDLOCK.
HE WILL BANISH ME TO THE ISLAND OF DUNG: THERE TO LIVE OUT MY DAYS BEREFT OF MY ROYAL INHERITANCE, EXILED FOREVER WITH THE DUNG-GATHERERS.
KAUFMANN-TUAN, THE LOVE WE HAVE SHARED THIS ENDLESS SUMMER HAS BEEN LIKE A BIRD OF SHEER DELIGHT, WINGING ITS WAY ACROSS THE HILLS AND VALLEYS OF MY BEING. THAT YOU, THE MAN WHO CAME FROM THE SKY, COULD EVER DESIRE A HUMBLE, EARTH-BOUND LITTLE PRINCESS...
BUT I–I FEAR FOR THE FUTURE. FOR THE LIFE OF THE CHILD THAT GROWS INSIDE ME. FOR–FOR–
KAUFMANN-TUAN, I DO NOT WANT TO GO TO THE ISLAND OF DUNG...!
WELL, DON'T YOU WORRY YOUR PRETTY LITTLE HEAD ABOUT A THING.

YOU DON'T THINK I'M THE KIND OF FELLOW WHO'D LEAVE A LADY IN THE LURCH, DO YOU?
WELL... I...
KARL KAUFMANN IS TRUE BLUE, PRINCESS. A STRAIGHT-SHOOTER, THROUGH AND THROUGH.
OH, KAUFMANN-TUAN! YOU MEAN--?
WHY, YES I DO MEAN.
I'M GOING TO SEE YOUR DADDY RIGHT NOW AND ASK HIM FOR YOUR HAND IN MARRIAGE–AND WE'LL BE WED BEFORE THIS WEEK IS OUT.
KAUFMANN-TUAN!
THIS BABY WON'T HAVE A THING TO WORRY ABOUT, AND NEITHER WILL YOU. YOU HAVE MY WORD ON THAT AS A GENTLEMAN.
THAT I COULD KNOW SUCH JOY! OH, MY BELOVED, THIS IS THE HAPPIEST DAY OF MY LIFE!
YOU BET IT IS, LITTLE LADY. AND AS SOON AS I HAVE YOUR DADDY'S BLESSING, IT'S GOING TO GET EVEN BETTER.
MAKE HASTE, KAUFMANN-TUAN! YOU ARE MY LOVE, MY PRINCE, MY SKY-BORNE GOD OF DESIRE! I CANNOT BEAR TO BE WITHOUT YOU, NOT EVEN FOR A SINGLE MOMENT!
HMH!
YOU JUST TRY KEEPING ME AWAY...


THERE, NOW, MY LITTLE SPROUT.
ALL WILL BE WELL AFTER ALL.


YOUR MOTHER WILL BE WED TO KAUFMANN-TUAN. THE GODS WILL SMILE UPON OUR UNION. THE PEOPLE WILL REJOICE.
AND THERE WILL BE A *FEAST*...


WITH A GREAT ROAST OX, AND A PYTHON STUFFED FROM HEAD TO TAIL WITH SWAN-LIVER PASTE... AND A TIGER PIE...AND HUNDRED-PARROT STEW AND CREAM...
AND SPICED ORANGUTAN, AND GOONEY-BIRD IN TURTLE SHELLS...AND A CROCDUCKEN...
AND KOMODO BITES...!


...PINEAPPLE QUARTERS, FRIED IN CANE-BATTER, DUSTED WITH HONEY-OF-THE-EVENING.
AH, MY LITTLE SPROUT. HOW HAPPY WE'LL BE.
KAUFMANN-TUAN AND ME...

AND BABY MAKES THREE.
1: LET'S FLY, LET'S FLY AWAY

...I MEAN IT'S NOT LIKE I'M EVER GOING TO BE BACK THERE AGAIN, IS IT?
TRUE ENOUGH.
NO-BALLS TONG SHOWED UP AGAIN. WORD IS HE'S LOOKING FOR YOU.
WHY?
CLUE'S IN THE NAME.
COME ON, EVERYONE KNOWS THAT WAS AN ACCIDENT...!
YOU BE SURE AND TELL NO-BALLS THAT WHEN YOU SEE HIM.
PFFF.
ALL DONE.

OH, YES. YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO PUT THIS ONE ON MY TAB...
DON'T HAVE A TAB.
PAY ME.

HHHH...LOOK, I DON'T EXPECT YOU TO UNDERSTAND THIS, BUT JUST AT THE MOMENT MY ASSETS ARE TIED UP IN A NUMBER OF VENTURES--
DON'T CARE.
I'LL WRITE YOU AN I.O.U., YOU KNOW I'M GOOD FOR--
WRONG AGAIN.

WELL, WHAT'S TO STOP ME JUST TAKING OFF ANYWAY?
ME KNOCKING YOUR TEETH OUT YOUR ASS.
PAY ME, KAUFMANN.

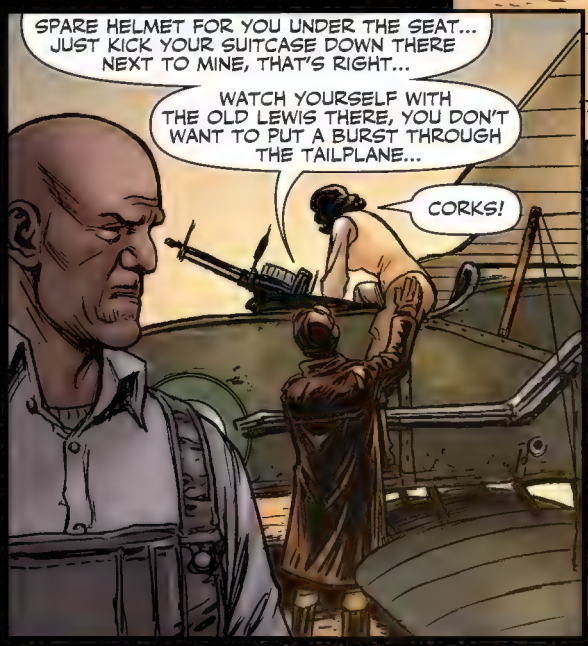
OH, COME ON, WINCH! WHY CAN'T YOU JUST TRUST ME, I MEAN HOW LONG HAVE WE KNOWN EACH OTHER NOW...?
LONG ENOUGH I DON'T TRUST YOU WITH CHANGE OF A NICKEL. LIKE MOST ANYONE ELSE FROM HERE TO SHANGHAI.
PAY M--
KAUFMANN?

NOT KARL KAUFMANN, BY ANY CHANCE? THE FAMOUS FLYING ACE?
WHY, UH... YES, AS A MATTER OF FACT...
OH, HOW SPLENDID! I OVERHEARD THIS CHAP MENTIONING YOUR NAME AND SAW YOU HAD AN AEROPLANE, AND SORT OF PUT TWO AND TWO TOGETHER!
I'M CLEMENTINE FRANKLIN-COX. CLEMMIE.
I'M VERY FLATTERED YOU'VE HEARD OF ME, CLEMMIE.
OH, YES, YOU WERE WITH OUR ROYAL FLYING CORPS IN THE WAR, WEREN'T YOU? MY CHUMS AND I WERE QUITE SMITTEN WITH YOU, WE ALL CUT YOUR PICTURE OUT OF THE PAPER!
WELL ISN'T THAT JUST SWELL. WHAT IS IT BRINGS AN ELEGANT LADY LIKE YOURSELF TO THIS NECK OF THE WOODS, CLEMMIE?
OH, WELL, IT'S MY OWN SILLY FAULT. I'M SUPPOSED TO BE MEETING MY HUSBAND BERTIE IN SINGAPORE, BUT I MISSED THE BOAT AND THEN I GOT ON THE WRONG TRAIN–
AHHRMM.

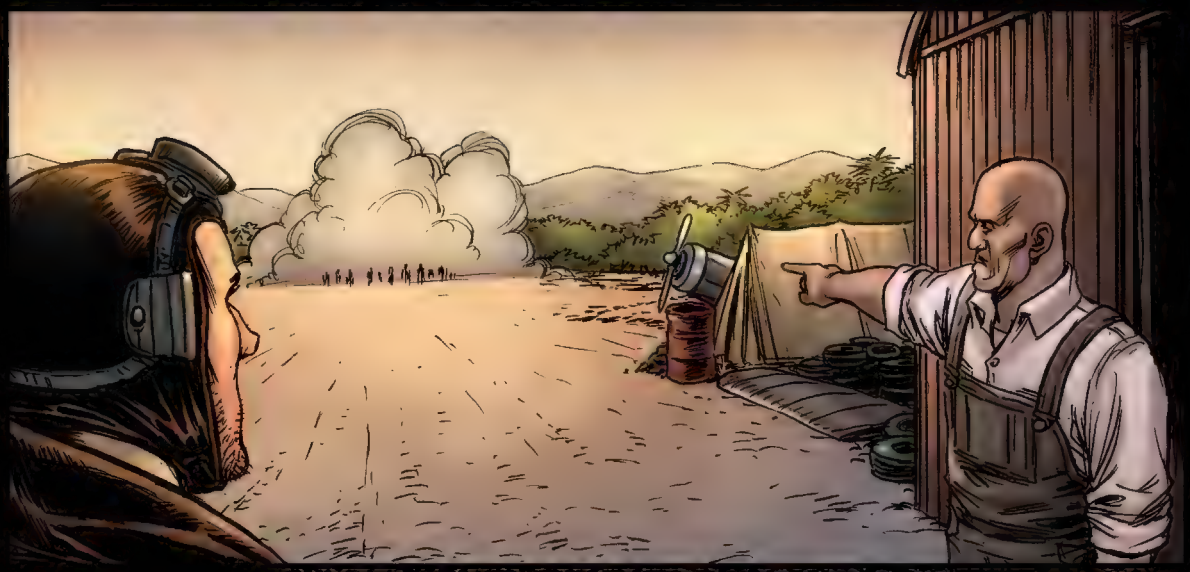
NOT NOW, WINCH...
NOW.
WOULD, AH, WOULD EITHER OF YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW THE TIME OF THE NEXT TRAIN BACK TO THE COAST? THE FELLOW AT THE STATION WASN'T TERRIBLY HELPFUL.
MONEY'S NO OBJECT, IT'S JUST A QUESTION OF TIME–
WELL, CLEMMIE, IT LOOKS LIKE THIS IS YOUR LUCKY DAY. IT JUST SO HAPPENS THAT I'M THE OWNER AND CHIEF PILOT OF A PRESTIGIOUS AIR-TRANSPORT SERVICE, AND I KNOW THIS ENTIRE REGION LIKE THE BACK OF MY HAND...
FOR A VERY COMPETITIVE RATE, I CAN HAVE YOU OVER IN PORT SONG IN TIME TO INTERCEPT THE EMPIRE DARLING TOMORROW EVENING–SHE'LL HAVE YOU IN SINGAPORE BEFORE THE WEEK IS OUT.
FLY THERE, YOU MEAN? MY GOODNESS, I–I'VE NEVER--
GOSH, I BET IT WOULD BE RIPPING FUN--!
VERY WELL, MISTER KAUFMANN, YOU'RE ON! I EXPECT WE'LL HAVE TO LAND SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY, JUST TO BED DOWN FOR THE NIGHT?
KARL, CLEMMIE. KARL. YES, I KNOW A COUPLE OF VERY ROMANTIC REFUELLING POINTS WHERE WE CAN... BED DOWN...
UM, IS THIS ENOUGH?
THAT'LL BE JUST FINE.

A REAL AEROPLANE! HOW TOPPING!
D'YOU KNOW, I THINK THIS IS THE CLOSEST I'VE EVER BEEN TO ONE...

WELL, THIS ONE'S AN F2B. A BRISTOL FIGHTER.
OH, MY.
WE, UH, WE CALLED IT A *BRISFIT* DURING THE WAR.
CRIKEY.
WANT TO GET IN?
RATHER...!


SPARE HELMET FOR YOU UNDER THE SEAT... JUST KICK YOUR SUITCASE DOWN THERE NEXT TO MINE, THAT'S RIGHT...
WATCH YOURSELF WITH THE OLD LEWIS THERE, YOU DON'T WANT TO PUT A BURST THROUGH THE TAILPLANE...
CORKS!

KAUFMANN?
WHAT?
KAUFMANN...
WHAT, DAMMIT--?



HAAAAA!!!EEEEEEE!!!
OH MY GOD.
NO-BALLS.
START, YOU BASTARD, START, PLEASE START–
OOOH! HORSIES!
VENGEANCE! VENGEANCE FOR WHAT WAS STOLEN FROM TONG!
GOD...!

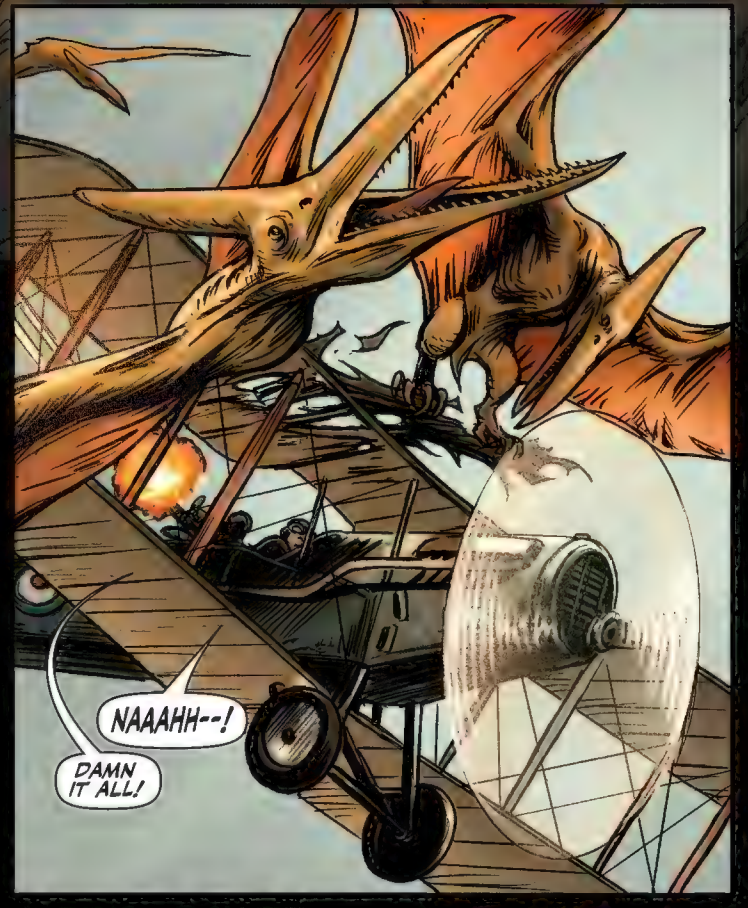
DEATH TO THE WHITE BETRAYER KAUFMANN! THE SKY-PIG WHO SOARS ON WINGS OF DECEIT!
COME ON, DAMMIT!
COME ON!
EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?
COME UNSTUCK, YOU SON OF A BITCH!
DEATH TO THE PURVEYOR OF DISCOUNT GELIGNITE-
HA, HA, HA.
SAYONARA, NO-HEAD.

IT'S THE ONLY, ONLY WAY, IT'S THE ONLY TRICK TO PLAY...
HE'S THE ONLY HUN, YOU'RE THE ONLY PUP, AND HE'S ONLY GETTING THE WIND RIGHT UP...
SO GO ON AND DO NOT STOP, 'TIL HIS TAIL'S DAMN NEAR YOUR PROP...
IF HE ONLY CRASHES THIS SIDE IN FLAMES, IT'S THE ONLY WAY THEY'LL BELIEVE YOUR CLAIMS...
SO KEEP HIM TIGHT, IN THE ALDIS SIGHT, IT'S THE ONLY, ONLY WAY!
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
BEG PARDON?
THAT SONG! HOW DO YOU KNOW IT?
NO IDEA! MUST HAVE OVERHEARD IT SOMEWHERE!
I SAY, IT LOOKS AS IF WE'RE IN FOR A SPOT OF WEATHER...!

D'YOU THINK THIS MIGHT DELAY OUR ARRIVAL A TAD?
WHAT?!
I SAID–
DELAY US? IT'S GOING TO DAMN WELL KILL US!
IT MUST HAVE BLOWN US FIFTY MILES OFF COURSE, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHERE BECAUSE THE INSTRUMENTS HAVE GONE CRAZY! I CAN BARELY TELL IF WE'RE THE RIGHT WAY UP OR NOT!
WHAT ABOUT THE COMPASS?
THAT TOO!
HEY, WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT–
CAN YOU LAND?
I DAREN'T! WE COULD BE MILES OUT TO SEA, OR IF THE CLOUD BASE IS LOW ENOUGH WE MIGHT FLY SMACK INTO A MOUNTAIN!

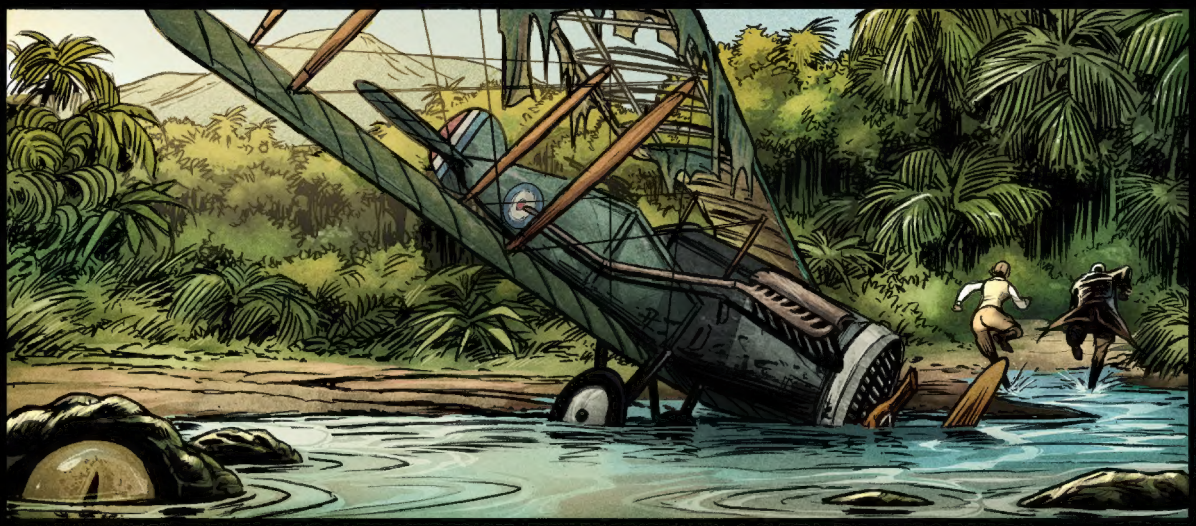
H...H...HOLY...
DIVE, YOU FOOL!

A-ARE THEY AFTER US--?
YES, THEY'RE BLOODY AFTER US!


NAAAHH--!
DAMN IT ALL!

...STOPPAGE!
WHAT--?
DIDN'T YOU CHECK THE PAN FOR DUDS? NO, I'LL BET YOU DIDN'T!
HAVE A GO WITH THE VICKERS!
SPARES DOWN TO YOUR LEFT! AAAAAAAHH!
AAAAH, THE BASTARD THINGS ARE FAR TOO FAST--!
GET DOWN LOW! LAND!
THEY WON'T LET ME!
GOD, YOU'RE BLOODY USELESS--!
LISTEN! WHEN I TAP YOU ON THE HEAD, BREAK RIGHT!
WHAT?!
YAAAH--!

NOW! LAND NOW!
NOT MUCH CHOICE WITH THE WINGS IN THIS STATE! HANG ON!
OH HELL! BETTER GET READY TO JUMP!
CAN'T YOU EVEN DO THIS RIGHT--?



WHAT THE HELL IS ALL THIS? WHAT *WERE* THOSE THINGS--?
UM...*PTERANODON LONGICEPS*. UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS.
SOMEWHAT UNSETTLING, THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO HAVE DIED OUT SEVERAL AEONS AGO.

HOW WOULD YOU KNOW SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
QUESTION OF EDUCATION. OBVIOUSLY NOT YOUR FORTE.
I WONDER...

JUST A MINUTE, MISSY--!
THIS EDUCATION INCLUDE THE INS AND OUTS OF AN AIR-COOLED LEWIS GUN, DID IT? THINGS LIKE HOW YOU CHANGE THE PAN WHEN YOU'RE UPSIDE DOWN?
AND COME TO THINK OF IT, WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DITSY LITTLE HALF-WIT WHO NEEDED A RIDE TO-
OH.

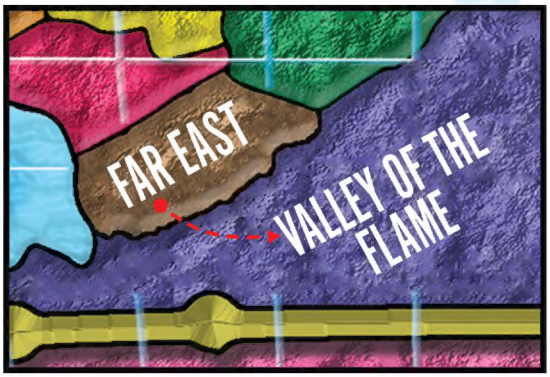
OH BUGGER.

FOR GOD'S SAKE, WHAT'S THE MATTER NOW?
TO BE CONTINUED

SECRET WARS

BATTLEWORLD

Karl and Clemmie's troublesome trip!



NEXT ISSUE:

Tyrant
Lizard
King
EMPIRE